

APPENDIX I --LOCAL INFORMATION

I.1 ALASKA

Alaska History

The lives of early Alaskans remained basically unchanged for thousands of years, until Russian sailors led by Danish explorer Vitus Bering sighted Alaska's mainland in 1741. The Russians were soon followed by British, Spanish, and American adventurers. But it was the Russians who stayed to trade in the pelts of sea otters and other fur-bearing animals, interjecting their own culture and staking a strong claim on Alaska. Once the fur trade declined, however, the Russians lost interest in this beautiful, though largely unexplored, land.

In 1867, U.S. Secretary of State William H. Seward offered Russia \$7,200,000, or approximately two cents per acre, for Alaska. At the time, some Americans scoffed at the purchase, calling Alaska "Seward's Folly" or "Seward's Icebox." The official transfer of Alaska to the United States occurred on October 18, 1867, in ceremonies at the Russian capital of Sitka.

Gold was discovered in Alaska as early as 1880. But the big gold rush came in 1897, when the cry of "Gold" screamed across newspaper headlines worldwide, and more than 100,000 fortune hunters swarmed to the Klondike gold fields in Canada's Yukon. As gold was discovered in Nome, Fairbanks, and other locations, frontier mining towns sprang up throughout Alaska. Exaggerated stories about the lawlessness of these towns underscored the need to bring law and order to America's frontier. The adoption of a code of laws and the establishment of a court system in 1900 was the first step in a long journey that ultimately led to statehood.

World War II brought roads (including the famous Alaska Highway), airports, and harbors to Alaska, providing easy access to once remote outposts. In the next fifty years, fledgling timber, fishing, and mining industries began to flourish. In 1958, the Alaska statehood measure was finally passed by Congress, granting Alaska official status as the 49th state on January 3, 1959. The Alaska Legislature has designated 1994-2004 as the Gold Rush Centennial Decade. Towns and cities throughout the state will hold special observances in remembrance of the Gold Rush.

Today, the fascination with the forty-ninth state continues. Visitors are drawn to Alaska by its breathtaking scenery and the diversity of its wildlife, which includes numerous big animals. The southern part of the state has many bears (notably the Alaskan brown bear, the world's largest carnivorous land mammal) and deer; large herds of fur seals are found on the Pribilof Islands. Alaska has herds of moose, caribou, and reindeer, some domesticated musk-oxen, and mountain goats and sheep. Arctic Alaska has polar bears, caribou, and arctic foxes. The state's numerous streams are well stocked with trout, salmon, grayling, and other fish, and coastal marine waters contain abundant salmon, halibut, cod, herring, pollack, shrimp, clams, and crabs as well as whales.

The People of Alaska

There are seven distinct Native cultures in Alaska, and dozens of sub-cultures. The majority of the native population belongs to one of the two Eskimo groups, the Inupiaq and the Yupik, which live mostly along the state's coasts. They support themselves in part by

catching fish and sea mammals and by herding reindeer. The American Indian groups include the Athabascan Indians of the Interior and the Haida, Tlingit, and Tsimshian Indians of the Inside Passage. The Aleut, closely related to the Eskimo, live on the Alaska Peninsula and on the Aleutian and Shumagin Islands. As of 1990, the combined population of American Indian, Eskimo, and Aleut was 85,698.

The state's total resident population in the 1990 census was 550,043. Alaska is one of the least populous of the U.S. states, but its population grew rapidly in the 1980s, increasing more than 36%, or nearly four times the national increase, during that period. The growth resulted from a significant natural increase and from some in-migration. Large in-migration had occurred in the 1970s when many persons entered the state to work in the petroleum industry or in jobs associated with oil production and transportation. Continuing into the 1980s, this trend abruptly halted in the mid-1980s -- and actually reversed, with some regions experiencing a net outflow of population because of the drop in oil revenues.

Only seven Alaskan communities are of significant size--Anchorage, Fairbanks, Juneau (the state capital), Kenai, Ketchikan, Sitka, and Kodiak. Some of these cities experienced a rapid pace of growth in the 1970s, and all continued to grow during the 1980s. Some smaller places, such as Barrow, Nome, Valdez, Bethel, Petersburg, Seward, and Wrangell (most with fewer than 4,000 inhabitants in 1990), are regional economic centers.

Interior Alaska

Alaska's Interior is a vast region which contains some of the state's most impressive natural wonders. Figure I.1-1 is a map of Alaska. The mighty Yukon, Alaska's longest river, flows 1,875 miles from the historic Klondike to the Bering Sea and courses through the middle of the region.

Located in Denali National Park and Preserve, majestic Mount McKinley's 20,320-foot peak dominates the region's southern landscape. The 6-million-acre national park contains North America's largest mountain, along with 37 species of animals and 155 species of birds. The George Park Highway and the Alaska Railroad link Fairbanks with Denali National Park and Anchorage.

Alaska's northern lights, the *aurora borealis*, may be seen from late August through April. One of nature's most inspiring sights, they appear mostly on cold, clear nights. Alaska Natives believed they saw the souls of their ancestors in these shimmering curtains of yellow, green and red light. Turn of the century gold rush prospectors believed the colors were rising from the Mother Lode. Mystical and unpredictable, these sheets of light inspire lasting Alaska memories.

The Interior's attractions and natural wonders are accessible by air, rail, or highway.

Alaska Highway

The Alaska Highway is the only road link between Alaska and the Lower 48 states. For many visitors, driving the Alaska Highway is the crowning event of an Alaska vacation. Originally 1,523 miles of gravel road, it is now entirely paved and takes you past spellbinding scenery, rustic communities, and roadhouse lodges that offer old-time Alaska charm.

Figure I.1-1 Map of Alaska



When traveling the Alaska Highway, Tok is the first major point of interest. Located between the Tanana River and the Alaska Range, Tok serves as a trade center for six Athabascan Native villages. Gift shops abound in Native crafts and beadwork, and several hotels and restaurants cater to travelers.

Twenty miles east of Tok, visitors can drive north along the Taylor Highway and visit the gold rush transportation center of Eagle, where you will find the park headquarters for the Yukon-Charley Rivers National Preserve. From Eagle, try a float trip down the Yukon River to Circle or cruise by catamaran to picturesque Dawson City in Canada's Yukon.

Delta Junction is the official northern end of the Alaska Highway. From Delta Junction you can visit glaciers, catch a glimpse of the Trans-Alaska Pipeline, pick wild berries from July through September, fish for arctic grayling, and see bison roaming the Delta Bison

Range. Visit Alaska's largest agricultural area and experience incredible panoramic views of the Alaska Range.

Visitors to the Delta area can enjoy a visit to Big Delta State Historical Park. A museum in the park features period photographs, pioneer relics, and Athabascan Native artifacts. Delta offers several motels, RV parks, and visitor services. In addition, there are four state recreation sites you can access from the Richardson Highway.



Mt. McKinley and Denali National Park and Preserve

Mount McKinley, at 20,320 feet, is North America's highest mountain. The Athabascan natives called it Denali, "the High One," and in 1980, the national park's name was changed to Denali. Mount McKinley is a massive mountain and the towering centerpiece of the glacier-strewn Alaska Range. Under its shadow in Denali National Park and Preserve are barren-ground caribou, grizzly bears, wolves, moose, Dall sheep, and other wildlife. Meandering, glacier-born rivers laden with silt (or rock flour) create natural dams and periodically change course across their wide, flat valleys. Much of the park's scant tree growth lies in the river valleys. At higher elevations are large expanses of tundra, a fascinating world of dwarfed shrubs and miniature wildflowers.

From Fairbanks, travel the scenic George Parks Highway to Mt. McKinley and Denali National Park and Preserve by car, motorcoach, air taxi, or the Alaska Railroad. To protect wildlife and to preserve opportunities to see it, the use of private vehicles is restricted on the park road. A shuttle bus service operates within Denali along the 85-mile wilderness road from the park entrance to Wonder Lake. The shuttle bus will drop you off or pick you up at points along the park road. Denali offers hotels, campgrounds, and visitor programs. Recreational activities include hiking, rock and ice climbing, photography and wildlife viewing, nature walks, slide programs, sled dog demonstrations, and cross-country skiing (in season), along with ground and flightseeing tours.

Take a shuttlebus or guided tour into the park's wilderness to see caribou, grizzly bears, wolves, moose, Dall sheep, lynx, ground squirrels, marmots, fox and snowshoe hares. The majority of the park's birds visit during summer, but year-round residents include ravens and great horned owls, as well as white-tailed, rock, and willow ptarmigan. Additional park highlights include Wonder Lake, Savage River Canyon, Polychrome Pass, the Outer Range, Sanctuary River, Glacier, and the Kantishna Hills - all of which can be seen from the 90-mile road that traverses the park.

The adjacent Denali State Park is famous for its panoramic views of Mt. McKinley and the Alaska Range. The Denali Highway will take you through the Alaska Range from the edge of Denali National Park to Paxson. From this junction you can continue north to Fairbanks or south to Anchorage.

I.2 FAIRBANKS

Origin of Fairbanks

When the Territory of Alaska was purchased from Russia in 1867, little was known about Alaska and even less about the Interior. The first successful expedition into the Interior

wasn't until 1885. Lt. Henry Allen's journey took him two years to complete. He traveled more than 1,500 miles and mapped the Copper, Tanana, Yukon and Koyukuk rivers. The explorer was the first white man many of the Native Alaskans he encountered had ever seen. It was thirteen years before other white men explored Alaska's interior and an additional five years before the birth of Fairbanks.

As gold miners headed into the Klondike, there were a hardy few who decided to make their way into Alaska, some searching for gold in the hills of the Tanana valley. There were few trading posts then, and the nearest one to the Tanana valley was in Circle City, over one hundred miles away. Capitalizing on this situation, E. T. Barnette set out to establish a trading post at present-day Tanacross. However, due to unexpected shallows, the riverboat on which Barnette was traveling was unable to continue down either the Tanana or Chena rivers. The riverboat captain decided to put Barnette ashore, along with his large stock of trade goods. Barnette was initially not pleased with the prospect of establishing his trading post so far from the existing gold fields. However, the appearance of several local prospectors, drawn by the smoke of the riverboat, made him realize that there was money to be made at this location. It was a fortunate decision, as three months later miners found gold in the area.

From that moment on, Barnette focused on making the best of his accidental landing and built his city by sheer force of personality. He convinced early residents to name Fairbanks in honor of Indiana senator Charles W. Fairbanks (later Vice President of the United States under Teddy Roosevelt), a friend of territorial Judge James Wickersham. Within five years Fairbanks was the largest and busiest city in Alaska. From these meager beginnings, the population of the city of Fairbanks has now grown to over 32,000 inhabitants (over 85,000 in the metropolitan area).

A product of the Gold Rush, Fairbanks has grown into a bustling trade and transportation center for Interior and Far North Alaska. Alaska's second largest city (Anchorage being the largest) is home to the University of Alaska's main campus, as well as both Army and Air Force installations. A mix of modern city and age-old traditions, Fairbanks is the gateway to Alaska's past and its future.



THINGS TO DO IN FAIRBANKS

A sample of activities in and around Fairbanks for which information is available on the internet:

Alaskan Airboat Adventures
Phone: 907-479-0378
<http://www2.polarnet.com/~airboat>

El
1975
Phone:

Dorado
Discovery

Gold
Mine
Drive
907-479-7613

<http://www2.polarnet.com/~discovery>

Alaskaland

Off Airline Way

<http://www.newsminer.com/visitor/akland.html>

Ester Gold Camp

PO Box 109, Ester

Phone: 907 479-2500

<http://www.akpub.com/akttt/ester.html>

Alaska Railroad Scenic Rail Tours

Daily and overnight tours to Denali

Phone: 800-544-0552

<http://www.akrr.com/akrrpshp.html>

Interior AK Adventures

269 Topside Rd

Phone: 907-388-4193

<http://www.akpub.com/fhwag/logan.html>

Alaska Salmon Bake

In Alaskaland

Phone: 907-452-7274

<http://www.akpub.com/akttt/salmo.html>

Riverboat Discovery

1975 Discovery Drive

Phone: 907-479-6673

<http://www2.polarnet.com/~discovery>

Dynamic Aurora, University of Alaska Museum

Phone: 907-474-7505

<http://zorba.uafadm.alaska.edu:80/museum>

7 Bridges, Boats, and Bikes/Arctic 7 Rentals

Phone: 907-479-0751

<http://www.akpub.com/akttt/7gabl.html>

Alaskaland

Take an entertaining and educational look at early Fairbanks by visiting Alaskaland, a 44-acre theme park that mixes historical information with today's sense of humor. The park has a slice of just about everything in Alaska, from a salmon bake to a Native village. The park has three museums, an antique merry-go-round and an old-time saloon.

Located near downtown Fairbanks off Airport Way, Alaskaland Pioneer Park was built for the Alaska 1967 Centennial Exposition. A total of 29 cabins were moved to the site to form Gold Rush Town. The cabins form a unique walk through Fairbanks' history. They include the Kitty Hensley House, Judge Wickersham's House, Doc Stearn's cabin, the original First Presbyterian Church, Nick Nagengast's cabin, Skagway Jim's cabin, E.H. Mack's cabin, Georgia Lee's house, Bill Sherwin's home and Alex McRae's dream cabin.

In addition to Gold Rush Town, Alaskaland includes an RV campground, two 18 hole miniature golf courses, covered picnic shelters and a large grassy field and playground area for travelers to stretch their legs and relax. The park is open through Labor Day.

Other points of interest

Considered one of the top attractions in the state, the University of Alaska Museum features exhibits on Alaska's regions, wildlife, and Native culture.

Creamer's Field, located two miles from downtown, is a waterfowl refuge for ducks, geese and cranes during their spring and fall migrations. Some of Alaska's loveliest scenery can be observed in the fall when the birch forests surrounding Fairbanks turn to gold.

Throughout the year, caribou can often be seen just outside of Fairbanks. They've even been known to wander through town.

Popular regional activities include cruising the Chena and Tanana rivers on an authentic sternwheeler, canoe, or raft; observing musk oxen, caribou, and reindeer at the university's Large Animal Research Station; and touring a gold dredge and mine.

Drive to the bubbling mineral waters at Manley, Circle, and Chena hot springs; view a portion of the Trans-Alaska Pipeline; and visit the community of North Pole, where the U.S. Post Office traditionally sends Santa's mail to be answered by his elves.

A fly-in excursion to Fort Yukon on the Arctic Circle gives you a sampling of life on the Yukon River, in Alaska's largest Athabascan village.

Fairbanks Climate

Period of Record : 9/01/1949 to 1/31/1997

	Monthly Averages (° F)			Extremes (° F)		Average Number of Days:		
	Max.	Min.	Mean	High	Low	Max \geq 90° F	Max \leq 32° F	Min \leq 32° F
April	42.0	20.1	31.0	74	-24	0.0	6.0	27.0
May	59.9	37.6	48.7	89	-1	0.0	0.1	6.8
June	70.7	48.9	59.8	96	30	0.3	0.0	0.0

	<u>Apr</u>	<u>May</u>	<u>Jun</u>
Average Total Precipitation (in.)	0.25	0.5	1.39
Average Total Snow Fall (in.)	3.1	0.7	0.0
Average Snow Depth (in.)	10	0	0

Additional Alaska climate information can be found on the Alaska Climate Research Center webpage, <http://climate.gi.alaska.edu/weather/tourist/information.html>



Ah Sa Wan

Madarin, Szechwan and Shanghai
600 Old Steese Highway, Fairbanks
Phone: 907-451-7788

Alaska Salmon Bake

King salmon, halibut and ribs
In Alaskaland Park
Airport Way, Fairbanks
Phone: 907-452-7274
intrasea@polarnet.com
<http://www.akpub.com/akttt/salmo.html>

Campbell House Restaurant

Seafood, steaks, prime rib, chicken

Dining

Peking Garden

Mandarin and Szechuan
1101 Noble Street, Fairbanks
Phone: 907-456-1172

Pike's Landing

Seafood, steak, prime rib
4.5 Mile Airport Way, Fairbanks
Phone: 907-479-7113

Plate and Palette Gallery Cafe

Continental and vegetarian cuisine
310 First Avenue, Fairbanks
Phone: 907-451-9294

Pump House Restaurant

2227 Old Steese Highway, Fox
Phone: 907-457-7462

The Castle

Steaks, seafood, prime rib
4510 Airport Way, Fairbanks
Phone: 907-474-2165

The Dog House

Pub-style vittles
3412 College Road, Fairbanks
Phone: 907-479-0099

The Edgewater at Fairbanks Princess Hotel

Steaks, prime rib, seafood
4477 Pikes Landing Road, Fairbanks
Phone: 907-455-5024

The Food Factory

Sandwiches and burgers
18th and Cushman, Fairbanks
Phone: 907-452-6348

Gambardella's Pasta Bella

Italian, pizza, seafood, subs
706 Second Avenue, Fairbanks
Phone: 907-456-3417

Golden Shanghai

Mandarin, Szechwan, Cantonese
1900 Airport Way, Fairbanks
Phone: 907-451-1100

Hot Licks Homemade Ice Cream

Calzone, lasagna, sandwiches
3549 College Road, Fairbanks
Phone: 907-479-7813

Hotels

Sophie Station Hotel
1717 University Ave
Fairbanks AK 99709
Phone: 907-479-3650
800-528-4916
Fax: 907-479-7951
<http://www.mosquitonet.com/~fountain>

Seafood, steak, prime rib
1.3 Mile Chena Pump Road, Fairbanks
Phone: 907-479-8452
<http://www2.polar.net/~pumphse>

Soapy Smith's Pioneer Restaurant

Steaks, seafood, sandwiches
543 2nd Avenue, Fairbanks AK
Phone: 907-451-8380

Souvlaki

Mediterranean and American food
112 North Turner, Fairbanks
Phone: 907-452-5393

Turtle Club

Prime rib, seafood, BBQ ribs
10 Mile Old Steese Highway, Fox
Phone: 907-457-3883

Two Rivers Lodge

Prime rib, beef, seafood
4968 Chena Hot Springs Road, Fairbanks
Phone: 907-488-6815

The Vallata

Italian and American cuisine
2190 Goldstream Road
Phone: 907-455-6600

Whole Earth Grocery and Deli

Vegetarian and organic food
1157 Deborah Street, Fairbanks
Phone: 907-479-2052

Wedgewood Resort
212 Wedgewood Drive
Fairbanks AK 99701
Phone: 907-452-1442
800-528-4916
Fax: 907-451-8184
<http://www.mosquitonet.com/~fountain>

I.3 BARROW

(Information courtesy of the Atmospheric Radiation Measurement Program's NSA/AAO Site homepage (www.arm.gov/docs/sites/nsa/nsaaao.html) and related links. Additional information provided by Barrow residents John and Meki Selman.)

Community Profile

Community Type:	1st Class City
Current Population:	4276
Borough Name:	North Slope Borough
Regional Native Corporation:	Arctic Slope Regional Corp.
REAA/School District:	North Slope Borough Schools

Location

Barrow (Lat. 71° 17' N, Long. 156° 14' W) is the northernmost community in North America. It is located on the Chukchi Sea coast, 10 miles south of Point Barrow from which it takes its name. It lies 725 air miles from Anchorage.

Community Information

Barrow is named for Sir John Barrow, 2nd Secretary of the British Admiralty. Barrow was known by natives as Ukpeagvik (place where owls are hunted.)

Archaeological sites in the area indicate habitation from 500 to 900 A.D. Sixteen dwelling mounds from the Birnirk culture remain today.

The Cape Smythe Whaling and Trading Station was constructed here in 1893.

Bowhead, gray, killer and beluga whales migrate near Barrow each summer.

Economy

Barrow is the economic center of the North Slope Borough, the city's primary employer. Numerous businesses provide support services to oil field operations. State and federal agencies also provide employment. The midnight sun has attracted tourism, and arts and crafts provide some cash income. Five residents hold commercial fishing permits.

Culture

The majority of residents are Inupiaq Eskimos. The Inupiaq traditionally depend on subsistence marine mammal hunting, supplemented by inland hunting and fishing, practices which are an active part of the culture.

Transportation

Regularly-scheduled jet services provide Barrow's only year-round access. Alaska Airlines is the only commercial passenger airlines; Alaska Air and Northern Air Cargo provide the only cargo planes. The state-owned Wiley Post-Will Rogers Memorial Airport serves as the regional transportation center for the borough. The airport has recently undergone major improvements. Marine and land transportation provide seasonal access. In addition, the city has requested funds for construction of a small boat harbor.

Hotels

There are several places to stay while in Barrow. During most of the year, and especially during the tourist season (June - September), these motels may be full. Please plan accordingly.

Top of the World Hotel (907) 852-3900

Barrow Airport Inn (907) 852-2525
UIC NARL Hotel (907) 852-2361 (dormitory, communal bathrooms)

Restaurants

For a small town, Barrow has many establishments that will provide a fine meal.

Pepe's North of the Border

Mexican food

Next to Top of the World Hotel

(907) 852-8200

Northern Lights

Chinese, American and Pizza

Recommended by our local contact

(907) 852-3000

Arctic Pizza

Italian, American, pizza

(907) 852-4222

UIC NARL Cafeteria

Breakfast, lunch, and dinner

(The only place to eat at UIC NARL)

Teriyaki House

Oriental, American

(907) 852-2276

Ken's

Breakfast, Chinese

Local contact comment: "pretty good greasy place"

(907) 852-8888

A new establishment, King Eider Inn, should be open by the time the mission starts. It should be the nicest restaurant in Barrow. Also, the new building being constructed for the Alaska Commercial facility will also contain a Burger King and a Pizza Hut.

Shopping

Alaska Commercial is the primary store in Barrow. Other stores mentioned by our local contact are Arctic Coast Trading Post and Arctic Grocery. Be prepared for prices that are significantly higher than what you might expect in the lower 48 states. Remember, everything is flown in.

In Barrow, hardware may be purchased from Spenard Builders Supply (at UIC/NARL), Alaska Commercial (aka Stauqpuk), and NAPA Auto Parts. If you can't find it in Barrow, you can call many places in Fairbanks or Anchorage and it will be air shipped either the same day or the next day.

Health Facilities

Local Health Clinic: PHS Alaska Native Hospital/Barrow Service Unit

Clinic Owner: U.S. Public Health Service

Clinic Phone: 907-852-6682

Alternative Care: Barrow Volunteer Fire Department

907-852-0307 or 907-852-0234

NSB Search & Rescue/Fire Department/Medevac
907-852-0307 or 907-852-6111

The hospital is a qualified Acute Care facility and state-certified Medevac service. NSB Search & Rescue provides critical care air ambulance service.

Visitor Attractions

Arctic Ocean

Cape Smythe Whaling Station

Barrow Museum

Point Barrow

Birnirk archaeological site

The Will Rogers and Wiley Post Monument, across from the airport, commemorates the 1935 airplane crash that killed both the American humorist and the famous pilot. Two other monuments, located at the crash site 15 miles south of town, are on the National Register of Historic Places.

In April and May, visitors can often see Eskimos heading for whaling camps.

A movie theater is located in the school auditorium.

Climate

The climate of Barrow is arctic. Precipitation is light, averaging 5 inches yearly, and 20 inches of snowfall. Temperatures range from -56 to 78, averaging 40 during summer. The sun does not set between May 10th and August 2nd each summer, and does not rise between November 18th and January 24th each winter. Additional Alaska climate information can be found on the Alaska Climate Research Center webpage, <http://climate.gi.alaska.edu/weather/tourist/information.html>

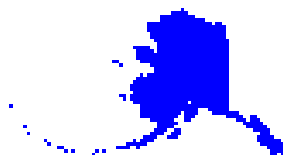
Period of Record : 9/02/1949 to 1/31/1997

	Monthly Averages (° F)			Extremes (° F)		Average Number of Days:		
	Max.	Min.	Mean	High	Low	Max <= 32° F	Min <= 32° F	Min <= 0° F
April	6.1	-7.9	-0.9	38	-38	29.3	29.9	22.6
May	24.6	14.8	19.7	47	-19	25.9	30.8	2.8
June	38.4	29.7	34.1	72	4	4.3	23.5	0.0

	<u>Apr</u>	<u>May</u>	<u>Jun</u>
Average Total Precipitation (in.)	0.18	0.15	0.33
Average Total Snow Fall (in.)	2.5	1.9	0.7
Average Snow Depth (in.)	11	6	1



ALASKA STATE SYMBOLS



TREE:	Sitka Spruce
FISH:	King Salmon
GEM:	Jade
MINERAL:	Gold
SPORT:	Dog Mushing
BIRD:	Ptarmigan
FLOWER:	Forget-me-not
MOTTO:	North to the Future
SONG:	The Alaska Flag Song
NICKNAME:	The Great Land
CAPITAL:	Juneau

ALASKA FACTS

STATE FLAG:	Eight stars of gold on a field of blue, representing the Big Dipper and the North Star.
ADMITTED TO THE UNION:	January 3, 1959 as the 49th State
STATE POPULATION:	570,000 (July 1991)
COASTLINE:	47,300 miles (longer than the coast of the rest of the United States)
LAND AREA:	586,412 square miles or about 365,000,000 acres (about 1/5th the size of the entire Continental United States and more than twice the size of Texas)
WATER AREA:	3 million lakes, more than 3,000 rivers
LARGEST CITY - POPULATION:	Anchorage, population 250,000 (1995)
LARGEST CITY - AREA:	Juneau with 3,108 square miles (largest city in square miles in North America).
OLDEST BUILDING:	Erschine House in Kodiak, built by the Russians between 1793 and 1796
EMPLOYMENT:	Oil/gas, fishing, tourism and government are the largest employers in the State.
CROSSING THE BORDER: FISHING AND HUNTING LICENSES:	No passport needed - Canada requires proof of automobile insurance. Sport fishing fees for non-residents are \$10 for a 1- day permit, \$15 for a 3-day permit, \$30 for a 14-day license and \$50 for an annual license. Non-resident hunting license is \$85; however, there are additional charges for big game tags. A combination sport fishing and hunting license is \$135 annually. For more information, contact: Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Division of Licensing: PO Box 3-2000; Juneau, Alaska 99802-2000; (907) 465-2376.
LARGEST STATE PARK:	Wood-Tikchik State Park with 2.5 million acres of wilderness - located in the Bristol Bay area (the largest state park in the nation).
LARGEST CONCENTRATION OF BALD EAGLES:	Along Chilkat River, just north of Haines. Nearly 4,000 bald eagles gather here in fall and winter months for late salmon runs. This is the largest concentration of these birds in the world.
LARGEST FRESH WATER LAKE:	Iliamna - 1,150 square miles
EXTREME TEMPS:	Highest: 100° F at Fort Yukon, 1915;

Lowest: -80° F at Prospect Creek Camp, 1971

TYPICAL ALASKAN:	According to 1990 census figures, 28.9 years old and male - this compares to 32.3 years for the United States. About 52 percent of Alaskans are male, the highest percentage of any state.
PER CAPITA INCOME:	\$23,788 in 1990, 8th highest in the nation.
MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME:	\$41,408 in 1989 (latest available), second highest in the nation.
LIQUOR LAWS:	Alaska's drinking age is 21. Alcohol is available in liquor stores and bars in many towns. Some villages are "dry" and it is against the law to transport liquor into them, even for personal consumption.
TIME ZONE:	Almost all of Alaska is in the Alaska Time Zone, which is one hour earlier than Pacific Time. The westernmost Aleutian Islands and St. Lawrence Island are on Hawaii-Aleutian Time, two hours earlier than Pacific Time.
SPEED LIMITS:	The speed limit on Canadian portions of the Alaska Highway is 50 miles per hour, and on non-urban Alaska highways, 55 miles per hour. The state has stiff fines and penalties for littering or driving while intoxicated.
HOLIDAYS:	In addition to all U.S. holidays, Alaska observes Seward's Day, the last Monday in March, which commemorates the signing of the treaty by which the United States purchased Alaska from Russia in 1867; and Alaska Day, October 18th, the anniversary of the formal transfer of Alaska from Russia.

Did you know...

Juneau, Alaska's capital city, has no road access and can only be reached by air or water.

Fairbanks enjoys more than 20 hours of daylight from mid-May through July.

Wrangell is the only Alaskan city to have existed under four nations and three flags: the Stikine Tlingit Nation, Russia, Britain and the United States.

Mount McKinley is North America's largest peak at 20,320 feet. Of the 20 highest peaks in the United States, 17 are in Alaska.

The Yukon River, almost 2000 miles long, is the third longest river in the U.S.

When the sun rises in Barrow on May 10, it does not set again for nearly three months. When it sets on November 18, Barrow residents do not see the sun again for more than two months.

Known as the "Emerald Isle", Kodiak is the largest island in Alaska and the second largest in the United States.

The Richardson Highway was Alaska's first road, known to gold seekers in 1898 as the "Valdez to Eagle Trail".

There are six distinct natural regions that make up the state of Alaska: the Interior, the Arctic, the Bering Sea Coast, the Alaskan Peninsula, the Aleutian Chain, South Central Alaska, and South Eastern Alaska.

The shortest distance separating North America from Asia is between Big and Little Diomede Islands.

The Turnagain Arm is known for having one of the worlds fastest tides. With a diurnal range of more than 33 feet in 10 minutes, it produces a bore tide which is a wall of water reaching up to five feet in height.

The heaviest one-year snowfall total was 974.5 inches (over 81 feet) at Thompson Pass near Valdez during the winter of 1952-53.

Powerful and unpredictable, bears should be treated with respect and caution. Follow park guidelines while in the back country. Bears are seen throughout Alaska, even in city parks in Anchorage.



Alaska's largest bear is the Kodiak Brown Bear.

The moose is the largest member of the deer family.

Caribou are the only deer in which both sexes grow antlers.

There are at least 25 species of mosquitoes in Alaska. The pests are present from April through September in many areas of the state.

APPENDIX J: ARCTIC CLOUD MISSION PARTICIPANT LIST

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